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AN

ACCOUNT

OF THE

EMMANUEL SOCIETY:

WITH

An ABSTRACT of their PROCEEDINGS.

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EMMANUEL SOCIETY.

SEVERAL Gentlemen, who were desirous of procuring some Relief for such indigent Blind Persons as do not receive Alms from any Parish, and are not common Beggars, assembled at the FIRST-FRUITS OFFICE, in the *Temple*, on *Tuesday* the 13th Day of *February*, 1781, and having agreed to form themselves into a Society for this charitable purpose, They unanimously resolved,

I. That this Society be called, The EMMANUEL SOCIETY, for the Relief of such indigent Blind Persons as have not received Alms from any Parish, nor been common Beggars.

II. That every Person who shall subscribe One Guinea, or more, annually, or give a Benefaction of Ten Guineas, shall be a Member of this Society.

III. That

III. That this Society will once in every Year give a Benefaction of Five Pounds, to ſuch Blind Perſons as ſhall be thereunto annually appointed, according to the Rules and Orders of this Society.

IV. That the ſeveral Petitioners who ſhall, according to the Rules and Orders of this Society, appear to be proper Objects, be arranged in Claſſes, according to their reſpective Ages, to be certified from the Pariſh Regiſter.

The Firſt Claſs to conſiſt of Perſons who are Seventy Years old, and upwards.

The Second to conſiſt of Perſons between Seventy and Sixty-five.

The Third to conſiſt of Perſons between Sixty-five and Sixty.

The Fourth to conſiſt of Perſons between Sixty and Fifty-five.

The Fifth to conſiſt of Perſons between Fifty-five and Fifty. And that no Petitions from Perſons under Fifty Years of Age be received, during the Infancy of this Society.

V. That it be an invariable Rule or Law of this Society, that the oldeſt Perſons, or thoſe of the Firſt Claſs, be firſt admitted to partake of this Society's Bounty; afterwards thoſe of the Second Claſs; and ſo on in regular Succeſſion: and that if the Number of Petitioners of the Firſt Claſs ſhould be greater than this Society can relieve in One Year, then ſuch of them as are Members

bers of the Church of *England*, and regular Communicants, ſhall have the preference in the firſt Place, and in the ſecond Place thoſe who have loſt a Limb, or labour under any bodily Infirmity deemed incurable, and the others to be relieved ſhall be choſen out of the remaining Petitioners by *Lot*. That the ſame Method be likewiſe obſerved in relieving the other Claſſes, whenever the Society's Subſcriptions ſhall be adequate thereto.

VI. That in every ſuceeding Year all new Petitioners ſhall be arranged in the aforeſaid Claſſes according to their Ages, and ſhall have an equal Chance with the old ones for the Bounty of this Society.

VII. That no Perſon ſhall be allowed any Benefit from this Society, who ſhall have any Penſion or Annuity exceeding Eight Pounds a Year from any charitable Inſtitutions or Endowments for the Relief of Blind Perſons, or who ſhall by any other Means have any Penſion, Annuity, or Income, exceeding Twelve Pounds *per Annum*.

AT a ſubſequent Meeting it was Reſolved, that a General Meeting of the Society for the Diſtribution of their Bounty be holden annually in the beginning of May; and that all Petitions muſt be delivered in at the First-Fruits Office, on or before the 25th Day of April, preceeding.

THE many charitable Inſtitutions lately eſtabliſhed in this Kingdom are laſting Monuments of the Munificence of the preſent Age; and it muſt afford the ſincereſt Pleaſure

ſure to every Friend of true Religion to obſerve, that how much ſoever we may differ in Religious or Political Sentiments, yet in giving Help to the Diſtreſſed, all Parties ſeem to be actuated by a true Chriſtian Spirit, and harmoniouſly unite their Endeavours in carrying on the ſame Plans of Benevolence.

The candid Reception and liberal Support with which theſe have been ſeverally favoured, afford a ſtrong Proof that nothing more is neceſſary to procure Aſſiſtance for any Species of Diſtreſs, than to propoſe an effectual Plan of Relief. No ſooner was an Inſtitution for the Aid of Blind Indigent Perſons recommended to the Public, than a general Inclination ſeemed to prevail, to relieve ſuch complicated Diſtreſs. The Society, eſtabliſhed for carrying on this benevolent Purpoſe, on mature Deliberation, were of Opinion, that a ſmall Gift, under certain Regulations, to indigent Blind Perſons, in addition to what they earned by their Labour, or received from their Friends, would be the moſt eligible Mode of conveying this Aſſiſtance.

The Scheme hath been laid before the Public, and is ſo generally approved of, that the Society hath been enabled to make a Diſtribution at a much earlier Period than was at firſt expected. Forty-ſix Petitioners who appeared, on Examination, to be qualified according to the Rules of this Society, have received Five Pounds each, for which they, with the warmeſt Gratitude, deſired their Thanks might be returned to their generous Benefactors.

The NAMES, PLACES *of Abode, and* AGES, *of the Perſons relieved in* MAY, 1782.

Names.	Places of Abode.	Ages.
Ann Matthews,	Whalley, Lancaſter	82
John Banks,	Spofforth, Yorkſhire,	82
Jane Tarn,	Kendal, Weſtmoreland,	81
Sarah Dixon,	Wakefield, Yorkſhire,	80
William Moore,	Bentham, Yorkſhire	77
Thomas Brown,	St. George in the Eaſt,	75
John Alliſon,	St. Pancras, Middleſex,	74
Joſeph Granger,	Weſt-Bromwich, Staffordſh.	74
Mary Stoneham,	Greenwich, Kent,	72
Samuel Downs,	St. Giles, Cripplegate,	71
Ann Rippon,	St. Luke, Middleſex,	70
John Harvey,	St. Nicholas, Devonſhire,	70
Mary Curtis,	Kettering, Northamptonſhire,	68
Mary Ammet,	Hadleigh, Suffolk,	68
Fleetwood Hall,	St. Ann, Soho,	67
Ann Markham,	Bow, Middleſex,	67
Mary Eyles,	St. Mary Magdalen, Surry,	67
Frances Butts,	Bow-Lane, London,	67
Francis Lack,	Sywell, Northamptonſhire,	66
Jane Perkins,	St James, Weſtminſter,	66
Noah Girling,	Woodbridge, Suffolk,	65
Elizabeth Tovey,	Newington Butts, Surry	65

Jonathan

Names.	Places of Abode.	Ages.
Jonathan Richards,	Walker's-Court, St. James's,	63
Elizabeth Beal,	Orlingbury, Northamptonſhire,	61
Darby Malone,	St. Andrew, Holborn,	60
Thomas Watkins,	St. Giles, Cripplegate,	60
Benjamin Hollbrook,	St. Andrew, Holborn,	60
Mark Pratt,	Egleſcliff, Durham,	60
Elizabeth Batſon,	St. Giles in the Fields,	59
James Keatley,	St. James, Weſtminſter,	59
Elizabeth Burrell,	St. Giles, Cripplegate,	58
Edward Sampſon,	St. Giles in the Fields,	56
Ann Robinſon,	Shinkliff, Durham	56
Hannah Moore,	St. Giles, Cripplegate,	55
Edward Baker,	Spitalfields, Middleſex,	55
John Tilbury,	St. Giles, Cripplegate,	54
William Preſsly,	St. George, Hanover-Square,	54
Ann Payne,	St. Giles, Cripplegate,	54
Sarah Chapple,	St. Andrew, Holborn,	54
Matthew Lowndes,	St. Giles in the Fields,	54
Elizabeth Bonner,	St. Giles in the Fields,	53
Richard Sheriff,	St. Pancras, Middleſex,	52
Ann Upton,	St. John, Weſtminſter,	52
John Bradley,	St. John the Evang. Weſtm.r.	51
John Keeling,	Hornſey, Middleſex,	51
Edward Wright,	Newmarket, Cambridge,	51

When

When the Nature and Deſign of this Inſtitution ſhall be more generally known; when it ſhall have been conſidered, that the good End propoſed is to aſſiſt Perſons deprived of the great Bleſſing of Sight, and thereby rendered incapable of gaining a competent Livelihood by their own honeſt Induſtry, there is Reaſon to hope that the affluent and humane will chearfully contribute to the Support of an Inſtitution ſo truly charitable: And although the Number of Objects petitioning for Aid will doubtleſs from Year to Year increaſe, yet the Society humbly confide in the Divine Goodneſs, that their Reſources will be proportionably augmented; and that they ſhall not only be able to extend their Benevolence to Perſons under Fifty Years of Age, but ſhall likewiſe have it in their Power to place out Blind Children to ſuch Employments as may qualify them for procuring a decent Subſiſtence.

N. B. Blank Petitions may be had at the Firſt-Fruits Office, in the Temple.

Subſcriptions and Benefactions continue to be received by Meſſrs. HOARE, and Meſſrs. GOSLING, in Fleet-Street; Meſſrs. DRUMMOND, Charing-Croſs; Meſſrs. CHAMBERS and Co. Bond-Street; Sir CHARLES ASGILL, Bart. and Co. Lombard-Street; and by the Treaſurer, JOHN BACON, Eſq; at the Firſt Fruits Office in the Temple, to whom any Communication, in caſe the Bounty of this Charity is in any Manner perverted or miſapplied by being given to any undeſerving Individual, will be thankfully acknowledged.

RE-

RECEIPTS and PAYMENTS from *May* 1, 1781, to *June* 24, 1782.

	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
TO Balance of the laſt Account -	25	14	10			
To Benefactions and Subſcriptions -	254	9	8			
				280	4	6
By Payments to Forty-ſix Blind Perſons	230	0	0			
By Advertiſing, Paper, Printing, Meſſenger, and other incidental Expences —— ——	25	4	0			
By Balance in the Treaſurer's Hands -	25	0	6			
				280	4	6

A LIST

A LIST OF SUBSCRIBERS TO THE EMMANUEL SOCIETY.

His Grace the Duke of MONTAGU - - Preſident.

THE Right Honourable Lord Willoughby de Broke, *Hill-Street, Berkeley-Square*
The Right Hon. the Earl of Radnor, *Grafton-Street*
The Right Hon. the Earl of Aſhburnham, *Dover-Street*
Lady Aſhburnham
John Frere, Eſq; *Bedford-Row*
Alexander Bennett, Eſq; *Queen's-Square, Bloomſbury*
Edmund Pepys, Eſq; *Southampton-Street, Bloomſbury*
John Spiller, Eſq; *Spitalfields*
Rev. John Waring, A.M. *Mary-le-bone-ſtreet, Middleſex*
William Scullard, Eſq; *Leman-Street, Goodman's-Fields*
Rev. Herbert Mayo, D.D. *Rector of St. George's in the Eaſt, Middleſex*
Rev. Richard Kaye, LL.D. *Archdeacon of Nottingham, &c. &c.*
Edmund Allen, Printer, *Bolt-Court, Fleet-Street*
John Stock, Eſq; *Hampſtead*
Jonathan Watſon, ſen. Eſq; *Eſſex-Street*
Edmund Combe, Eſq; *New-Inn*
Rev. Michael Hallings, A.M. *Secretary to the Society for promoting Chriſtian Knowledge*

Evan

Evan Pugh, Eſq; and Alderman, *Biſhopſgate-Street*
Rev. Anthony Hamilton, D.D. *Archdeacon of Colcheſter, &c.*
Bryan Broughton, Eſq; *Treaſury*
William White, No. 27, *Garlick-Hill*
Elizabeth Wright, *Hackney, Middleſex*
Sarah Williams, No. 37, *Lamb's Conduit-ſtreet, Middleſex*
John Darker, Eſq; *St. Bartholomew's Hoſpital*
Rev. William Brereton, A.M. *Archdeacon of Stafford, &c.*
Samuel Waring
Edward Wynne, Eſq; *Inner Temple*
William Pocock, Eſq; No. 48, *Devonſhire-Street, Queen's-Square*
Rev. Francis Wollaſton, A.M. *Charterhouſe-Square*
Rev. Samuel Smalbroke, A.M. *Rector of Wem, Shropſhire*
William Johnſon, Eſq;
Peter Wells, Eſq;
Elizabeth Dancer, *Prince's-Square, St. George's in the Eaſt*
James Pederſen, Eſq; *Prince's-Square, St. George's in the Eaſt*
Hon. Philip Bouverie
Richard Down, Eſq; *Bartholomew Lane*
William Heberden, M.D. *Pall-Mall*
Elizabeth Forſter, *Grantham, Lincolnſhire*
Lutterel Wynne, LL.D. *Fellow of All Souls College, Oxon*
Benjamin Kenton, Eſq; *Minories, Aldgate*
William Jennens, Eſq; *Groſvenor-Square*
Ann Taylor, *Berwick, Salop*
David Burton Fowler, Eſq; *Inner Temple*
Francis Goſling, Eſq; *Fleet-Street*
William Shaw, Eſq; *Inglewood, Berks*
John Rogers, Eſq; *Bloomſbury-Square*
Rev. Sherlock Willis, A.M. *Wormley, Herts*
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George Chamberlayne, Eſq;
John Nichols, Printer, *Fleet-Street*